

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3079
ANSWERED ON:09.12.2002
TARDY PROGRESS OF IARI
VSM (RETD.) COL. CHOUDHARY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of slow progress of Indian Agriculture Research Institute, New Delhi as it has completed only 180 in-house projects during 1995-2001 as against the stipulated target of 402;
- (b) whether IARI has failed to achieve its objectives as a Centre for academic excellence though the strength of faculty members during the said period was three times that of students admitted for different courses;
- (c) if so, the reasons therefor; and
- (d) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the working of this esteemed institution?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) There were 402 in-house projects in operation during 1995-2000. Out of this 210 projects were started in 1994 of which 205 were completed in 1999.

In April, 1999, another 192 new projects were initiated. These are progressing satisfactorily. A few projects were extended beyond 5 years so as to complete the new research leads that these projects have provided.

(b) The IARI is a deemed university and has been functioning in this capacity since 1958 meeting the requirements of research, education and extension. Therefore, education is only a part of its important activities. Of the 524 scientific staff, only about 430 of them are eligible to guide M.Sc. and Ph.D students and are located in Delhi. The IARI admits nearly 200 students per year in various disciplines for M.Sc. and Ph.D degrees and as per the norms a guide can have at a given time a maximum of only three students. Therefore, the faculty is being utilized effectively.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) There are several Committees set up in the IARI which monitor the research programmes. These are the Divisional Budget and Research Committee, the Staff Research Council, the Research Advisory Committee which also give necessary policy direction and guide on new research activities. In addition to these, the Council periodically appoints Quinquennial Review Team, which monitor the working of the Institute's programmes.